

# Movies Made In Magna

More than 20 films, TV series & videos filmed in and around Magna, Utah.

**Feature Films:** *Most are (or were) available on DVD, and a few can be viewed online.*

**2015? Wild Horses**

Director Robert Duvall led a star-filled cast in this tale of people having to deal with new problems when an old crime is revealed.

**2015? The Man on Carrion Road**

Two feuding small town sheriffs must try to save their community after a violent drug deal.

**2009 Dadnapped ( rated TV-G )**

Fun family film shot mostly in Magna, especially on Main Street around the Empress Theater. A Daddy/Daughter vacation is interrupted when the father, a popular author, is taken and needs her to rally his young fans to rescue him.

**2009 S. Darko ( R )**

Dark Fantasy follow-up to "Donnie Darko" has a memorable visual style, especially in some night time dream sequences on Magna's Main Street.

**2007 American Pastime ( PG? )**

Historical fiction about internees in the WWII Japanese Internment Camp "Topaz" near Delta, Utah using baseball as a way to build bridges to the often untrusting locals. A few Magna street scenes.

**2005 The Crow: Wicked Prayer ( R )**

Several long sequences at Saltair, and a few other shots around Magna. Quirky horror / fantasy loosely related to the earlier films in this series.

**2005 Buffalo Dreams ( TV-PG ? )**

Family film for Disney TV with "culture clash" themes when a teen boy and his family move to a new small town. Includes Native American themes and action sequences, including a buffalo on Main Street.

**2005 Born Killers (a.k.a. "Piggy Banks") (R)**

A family of criminals sets up in a small town where they expect to find new victims - and maybe extended family. Many Magna area locations.

**2003 Just A Dream ( PG? )**

Noted actor Danny Glover directed this gentle drama. A young boy observes the changes in his family & community when a big film production comes to shoot in his small town. Many great scenes shot in Magna.

**1999 Bats ( PG-13 )**

Scientifically altered bats attack a small town, and only a few brave locals dare try to stop them. Long, exciting sequence of an all-night battle shot on Magna's Main Street.

**1997 Address Unknown ( PG )**

Just a few minutes shot in Magna in this family mystery film about a boy finding a message left by his late father.

**1993 Josh and S.A.M. ( PG-13 )**

Some footage done at Saltair and the surrounding area. Family comedy/drama about two boys who run away when they learn a secret about the real identity of one of them.

**1993 Slaughter of the Innocents ( R )**

Odd cult-related crimes bring an FBI special agent to Utah, but his work is complicated by his own son's interest and meddling in the case. Just a few scenes in Magna.

**1986 Ordinary Heroes ( PG-13? )**

Romantic drama of a young couple whose new relationship is tested when he returns from war with physical challenges that threaten their dreams. The stars shot several scenes on Magna's Main Street.

**1962 Carnival of Souls ( PG-13? )**

Probably the first film from the Magna area to be widely noticed and respected. Fantasy / psychological horror plot follows a woman after her narrow escape from a car accident. She starts noticing oddness all around her, and is drawn to a mysterious old amusement park -- hauntingly filmed at Saltair.

## **Short Films:**

**Celibate at the Orgy ( 2014 )**

Comedy series of short episodes using some Magna talent and locations. The film makers are also preparing to shoot additional projects in Magna.

## **TV Series:**

**Granite Flats ( 2013 – 2015 )**

Family adventure & mystery series with Magna as one of the main locations for filming. All episodes and many related videos are available for free online viewing. A BYU-TV production.

**Everwood ( 2002 – 2006 )**

Family drama with at least parts of some episodes filmed in and near Magna. Included many young actors who went on to have strong careers.

**Touched by an Angel ( 1994 – 2003 )**

Several episodes were filmed in Magna over the years. Especially interesting is the series finale, a 2 hour story arc titled "I Will Walk With You."

## **The Stand (1994)**

TV mini-series & movie from a Stephen King novel had some scenes shot in and near Magna, where the film makers were able to find local settings to simulate a wide variety of states and types of landscapes.

## **Documentary Films:**

### **Our Inland Sea (2010)**

Fun-loving documentary with plenty of images, history and folklore about the Great Salt Lake. Includes sections on the resorts near Magna, past and present.

### **Desert Empire (1948)**

Newsreel style travel film with rare scenes on local mining & ore processing, plus vintage footage at Saltair and the nearby beaches.

### **Electric Rails of Utah (2005)**

Modern historical documentary including old and new footage about the Garfield & Western Railroad which once connected Magna to SLC and to other west-side mining districts.

### **Various mining and historical films:**

There have been several films made examining local and regional mining history, or focusing on companies tied to that part of Magna's identity. Distribution and availability of these is unpredictable.

## **What else?**

There are now more ways than ever to make films. Online video sharing outlets such as YouTube, Vimeo, Vine and more, along with image & sound editing software make it possible for almost anyone to make and share a film. Time will tell who will create the next project to add to this list.

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*This is the first draft of the "Movies Made in Magna" list, prepared for a seminar on the subject presented in 2014 by the Magna Arts Council and hosted by the Magna Library.*

**We welcome additions or corrections to this list,  
which may be updated periodically at:**

**[www.artinmagna.com](http://www.artinmagna.com)**

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